

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-17, 19 and 21-23, all the claims pending in the application, stand rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-17, 19 and 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The Examiner asserts that the claims contain subject matter that was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to make and use the invention. This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

The Examiner states that in claim 1, line 9, the phrase “converting the IP multicast communication to unicast” and in claims 10 and 19, the phrase “a conversion server coupled to the destination that converts the IP multicast communication to unicast” are not disclosed such that the invention is enabled. Claims 1, 10 and 19 are the only pending independent claims.

As would be understood by one skilled in the art, the function of converting the IP multicast communication to unicast is achieved by a conversion server. Such server is referenced in the disclosure and claims, for example as server 25a.

Claim 1 refers to at least one client requesting the IP multicast communication from a source via at least one bi-directional communication channel. Claim 10 refers to a director device coupled to the source that receives conversion information whenever a given client requests the IP multicast communication from the source. As mentioned in Claim 10, the conversion information from the director is sent to the downstream conversion server, which is, therefore, triggered to convert IP multicast communication to unicast for the specific client. Claim 19 is similar

Applicants respectfully submit that, on the basis of the teachings in the specification and drawings, any person skilled in the art would understand that the role of the conversion server 25 is to replace the destination IP address of any IP packet from the multicast IP range of 224.0.0.0 to 239.255.255.255 with a unicast IP address. In the context of this invention, the unicast IP

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address will be that of the client. Also, any person skilled in the art would understand that the multicast format refers to IP multicast packets with destination IP address in the multicast IP range of 224.0.0.0 to 239.255.255.255. Thus, an IP packet with a destination IP address matching the multicast IP range is considered to be a multicast IP packet, as opposed to unicast IP packet.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

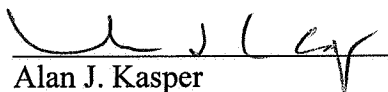
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